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RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF LAST
ARAB LEAGUE SESSION IN CAIRO

The following report was obtained by [REDACTED] from the same source as RLB-300. This time it is translated into English directly from the original Arabic. From the fulsome praises of the Lebanese Minister contained therein we can suppose it to be a record kept for Riyad himself by his secretary. Please cut out these references in copies distributed to customer agencies, as they are too revealing as to source. [REDACTED] is cabling the most important points of the document - of the genuineness of which he is convinced - crediting us.

1. The Arab League Council held its first meeting on February 9, 1948 at the chancery of the Egyptian Ministry for Foreign Affairs under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Riyad Bey SULEH, Prime Minister of the Lebanon and head of the Lebanese delegation. The meeting was attended by:

His Excellency Muhammad Fahmi al-MOGABASHI Pasha, Prime Minister of Egypt and head of the Egyptian delegation, with the Egyptian delegates;

His Excellency Jamil MARDAM Bey, Prime Minister of Syria and head of the Syrian delegation, with the Syrian delegates;

Kamal al-PASHAHI, Foreign Minister of Iraq, with the Iraqi delegates;

Sheikh Yusuf YASIN, representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

Masen IBBATI, representative of the Transjordan Hashimite Kingdom;

Ali al-NW'AYYID, representing the Kingdom of Yemen.

Following the opening of the session, the Council discussed the agenda, headed by the Palestine question. After this subject was discussed, it was decided to refer projects received by the Secretariat to the appropriate committees either for discussion or for making the necessary recommendations therefor, provided that the Council would then debate and decide on them. The session then ended.

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Meanwhile the Arab Leadership has been strengthened by
British Forces arriving who returned to Palestine on the
13th January together with Arab Chari. This step followed
a request by Dr. Nafid to resign from his post as Secretary
and devote himself exclusively to the military sphere while
other leaders were made to share his responsibility.

"Intended efforts also seem to have been made to improve
the military organization of the Arabs. A meeting of committee
was held in Nablus on the 13 January at which Abu-al-Qasim
Bargh and Hassan Balkan were present. The coordination
of activities in the different areas was discussed. (Nablus
appears to have been selected as the main party for security
reasons, and partly in order to induce the傍鄉 people and
villagers in the area to take a more active share in the other
activities.) Report is also come in of secretive efforts by
the NAFI's advisors in Beirut to secure coordination between
Ghawish and his agents in Damacus, Abu-Dhahab — who are operating
on their own initiative — and Abu-al-Qasim. Hassan
Balkan and the political leaders in Palestine and Cairo. The
NAFI is also said to have promised to supply to the deepest
or arms and equipment.

Although the solution of these problems is undoubtedly of
considerable importance, the promotion of Arab organization
and military activities depends primarily upon the extent of
understanding forthcoming from the Arab countries. In this
sphere, however, there are still vast difficulties to be over-
come. It appears that the League's Military Commission, which
has for some time been reported to have held meetings and
negotiations, is not yet fully and officially constituted.
This fact is confirmed even by AM and the weekly "Al-Ahram",
which cannot be suspected of any desire to belittle the League.
Reports from other sources, however, indicate the difficulties pre-
venting the formation of the Commission. Thus Libya has not yet
appointed its representatives, Transjordan refuses to participate,
and Tunis and Tripoli are standing silent. A desire has also been
expressed to our Sabri al-Matruhi, the Palestinian representative,
that the Military Commission be composed of Syria, Jordan and Libya.
But (DAM) Ahmed Bayati (Arabs) and Sabri Matruhi (Palestine).
It is therefore follows that five out of the seven countries belonging
to the League are not represented on the Commission. It is likely
an abortive "會議" of Arab states from Syria has given rise to
some thought on the part of the Arab statesmen with regard to
the advisability of preferring immediate military solutions
to the Palestine Arabs.

"The Arab League Council is due to meet again on the 1st January,
but may not do so till the beginning of February. It will presumably
discuss the following points: (a) the Arab "Administration" for
Palestine; (b) questions of major policy in view of Brigadier Clayton's
return to the Middle East from London and in view of the concluding

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of the treaty negotiations between Britain and 'Iraq (by then there may also be some news concerning the Anglo-Franco-Jordanian negotiations which are due to commence on the 22nd January); (e) further action in Palestine and the help to be given by the Arab countries; and (4) any developments that may take place in the meantime with reference to the Security Council and Implementation Commission. Forming the permanent background to these issues are the questions of 'Abdullah, the unity of the League and coordinated activity."

Phase distributions Washington (3) [] (2); [] (1);
[] (2), Illinois (2).

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